### (12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

# (19) World Intellectual Property Organization

Organization
International Bureau



## 

#### (43) International Publication Date 1 July 2004 (01.07.2004)

**PCT** 

## (10) International Publication Number WO 2004/055705 A2

(51) International Patent Classification7:

G06F 17/60

(21) International Application Number:

PCT/IB2003/005216

(22) International Filing Date:

17 November 2003 (17.11.2003)

(25) Filing Language:

English

(26) Publication Language:

English

(30) Priority Data:

02080279.9

13 December 2002 (13.12.2002) E

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): KONIN-KLIJKE PHILIPS ELECTRONICS N.V. [NL/NL]; Groenewoudseweg 1, NL-5621 BA Eindhoven (NL).

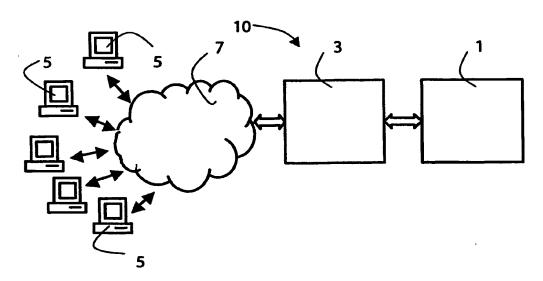
(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): BODLAENDER, Maarten, P. [NL/NL]; c/o Prof. Holstlaan 6, NL-5656 AA Eindhoven (NL). JOCHEMSEN, Robert [NL/NL]; c/o Prof. Holstlaan 6, NL-5656 AA Eindhoven (NL).

- (74) Agent: GROENENDAAL, Antonius, W., M.; Philips Intellectual Property & Standards, Prof. Holstlaan 6, NL-5656 AA Bindhoven (NL).
- (81) Designated States (national): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (regional): ARIPO patent (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: METHOD FOR DISTRIBUTING INFORMATION CONTENT



(57) Abstract: A method is disclosed for distributing information content. The content is encoded into a plurality of layers comprising a base layer and an enhancement layer, such that the base layer is needed for reconstructing said information content. The enhancement layer is transmitted by means of superdistribution. Optionally, an accessible sample of the base layer can also be provided. When receiving the layer(s) users will become interested in purchasing the content. Thus, according to the method a request for purchase is received from a user, and upon such a request the base layer is transmitted to the user. Not until the user holds both the base layer and the enhancement layer the content can be satisfactorily used. A system, a server, and a computer program product, providing corresponding distribution capabilities are also disclosed.

BEST AVAILABLE COPY